



CITY OF PINEHURST

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April 19, 2010

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
ATTN: CECW-CE, Douglas J. Wade
441 G Street NW
Washington, DC 20314-1000

Subject: Docket Number – COE-2010-0007
Process for Requesting a Variance from Vegetation Standards
for Levees and Floodwalls

Dear Mr. Wade

This letter is to express our concern over the proposed process. This process will create a great financial burden on our small City. The current variance for our region does not require a prohibitive investment for a local community and understands the issues and concerns of our area.

Imposing the same standards for all regions of the country does not make sense. The climate, vegetation and environmental issues vary from area to area and should be addressed accordingly.

If our City loses the existing Seattle District variance it is highly doubtful we would be able to afford a site specific variance. Requiring the involvement of an engineer alone could be devastating to our budget.

Currently the Seattle District has one variance for our region. Our experience with the Seattle Regional office of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been excellent.

We strongly urge you to reconsider your process for requesting a variance from vegetation standards for levees and floodwalls and continue to keep variances at the district level.

Sincerely,

Jay L. Huber,
Mayor

Cc: Senator Joyce Broadsword
Representative Mary Lou Shepherd
Representative R.J. Dick Harwood